ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Data stored on a computer readable medium in a computing system is protected from being read within another computing system by encrypting a data structure, such as the FAT table of a disk recorded using a FAT-based file system or a portion of the master file table of a disk recorded using an NTFS file system. This data

5   structure is used to find the files on the medium. Encryption and decryption preferably occur within a cryptographic processor of the computing system, with this data structure in a hard drive being encrypted as the computing system is shut down and decrypted after power on. In an alternate embodiment, a utility program provides for selective encryption and decryption of a data structure in a removable

10   computer readable medium.

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